

England's fishing fleet in 1580, John Harvard, after whom Harvard University was named, was a Puritan minister.



FAVORITE SHAPE . . . Employees at the Torrance Harvey stamnum extrusion mill selected 20th Century starlet, Charissa Hughes, as their "Favorite Extruded Shape." Cross-sectional dimensions of the lovely lass read 38-23-36 1/2, company officials say.

Merchant's Queries Help Nab Wanted Check Artist

Quick-thinking by a merchant who was suspicious of a customer attempting to cash a personal check lead to the arrest of a suspect who police say has written more than \$150,000 worth of phony checks in four years.

Taken into custody by a rookie policeman in Concord, Calif., this week was Walter Demeter known by a string of aliases ranging from Adams to Waitkunas — his true name.

Detective Sgt. Percy Bennett of the Torrance police department said they have information that Demeter started writing worthless checks more than four years ago, and has traveled throughout the country on the forged notes.

"He hit Torrance only once," Bennett said, "in August of 1951. He made off with \$80 from one of our merchants here, using a check allegedly signed by Dr. R. F. Bishop. He used the alias Henry Peters, here."

Hot on Trail
Bennett said check investigators have been hot on the trail of this suspect several times, but on each occasion, he evades capture. He recently was seen in Bakersfield, but police were unable to nab him in time.

The check-writer left a fabulous trail of worthless checks behind, officers charge, and apparently did nothing but eat, sleep, travel and enjoy the comforts of a luxurious life on other people's money.

Bennett pointed out that the capture of Demeter can serve as a valuable lesson to local merchants to be especially watchful when cashing checks for customers.

"This suspect always used personal checks, signed with the name of a well-known professional man in town. Each handwriting specimen received by police departments was exactly the same," Bennett said.

"Merchants should insist on positive identification from all persons attempting to cash personal and payroll checks," the detective urged. "Too many businessmen are hurt financially by the get-rich scheme of ruthless check writers."

"Any person legally cashing a check will not hesitate to produce good identification," he concluded.

County Asks Federal Help In Stamping Out Bad Smog

The County Board of Supervisors this week requested help of the federal government in solving three facets of the smog problem. The motion, which was unanimously passed, called for the federal government to:

1. Bring about stepped-up research on air pollution coming from the motor vehicle exhaust and the development of a satisfactory control device.
2. Conduct research on contributions of the petroleum industry to air pollution and an investigation as to possible changes in the chemical content of gasoline which would reduce greatly or eliminate this source of pollution.
3. Conduct research on the health effects of air pollution on human beings.

The board also went on record as supporting proposed federal legislation which would provide tax relief for smog control equipment installed by industry.

Renewal Fee Must Accompany Auto Transfer in December

During the month of December, any transfer of ownership of a Motor Vehicle must be accompanied by 1955 renewal fees, Leavitt Tudor, manager of the Torrance office of the Department of Motor Vehicles, announced yesterday.

In accordance with the California Vehicle Code, fees are acceptable only in cash, cashiers or certified check, or money order, he said.

GOING OUT TONIGHT?
Eat with Charley
At DANIEL'S CAFE 1625 Cabrillo Ave.

90 Cents Worth of Natural Gas Going Free to Users

Torrance and Lomita homeowners are in for a treat—about 90 cents worth of free gas to burn in their stoves, water heaters or floor furnaces.

Small refunds to all consumers supplied by the Southern California Gas Co. and the Southern Counties Gas Co. were ordered by the Federal Power Commission.

Exact amount of the refund, to be applied as a discount against future billing, depends on the amount of natural gas consumed by each user.

The reduction was part of a FPC decision on a request for

Board OKs Funds to Widen Lomita Blvd.

Authorization for the payment of \$8811 for the purchase of eight parcels of land, necessary for the widening of Lomita Blvd., was given Tuesday by County Supervisor Burton W. Chase.

Chase said the parcels to be purchased will provide part of the right of way for the county's program to widen Lomita Blvd. from Western Ave. to Woodward Ave.

The county's program, Chase announced, calls for the widening of the traffic artery, which now varies in widths from 40 to 60 feet, to an 84-foot wide, four-lane highway.

THIS Band Competes

Torrance High School's band placed high, but not high enough to win a trophy in the All Western Band Review held last Saturday in Long Beach, Director Marty Baum reported.

Top honors went to Grossmont High School in San Diego.

Fuchsia Unit Sponsors Yule Light Contest

Annual Outdoor Christmas Tree Lighting Contest will be sponsored again this year by the North Torrance Fuchsia Society, it was announced this week.

Competition will be in two phases, one, the lighting on buildings or lawn and two, window scenes or spot lighting as seen from the street. First and second prizes will be given in each section.

Address only will be given to the judges. Deadline for entries is Dec. 20 and those wishing to enter the contest are asked to call Mrs. J. R. Allison, chairman of the event.

Judges will be Mrs. A. C. Turner, F. H. Lisman and Elmer Moon.

Man Claims Discovery On Cold Prevention

An invitation to residents of the area to try an experiment in warding off the common cold and flu was issued this week by a Torrance resident who says he has practically eliminated the scourges from members of his family and other friends.

In an advertisement appearing in today's HERALD, the resident claims people who have previously been bothered with the two ailments and such others as tonsillitis, bronchitis, and allergies had gone a year without suffering the effects of the diseases after taking a new drug which is available on the market.

His plan is being offered to enable him to conduct wider tests of the drug, the man said.

Center for Cerebral Palsy Kids Discussed

Plans for a day center to provide special services for cerebral palsied children were discussed at a meeting of a newly formed Torrance Parents' Council Tuesday.

The group plans to investigate the possibility of setting up a center to train, treat, and educate handicapped children. Further information can be obtained at 8410 W. 172nd St.

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